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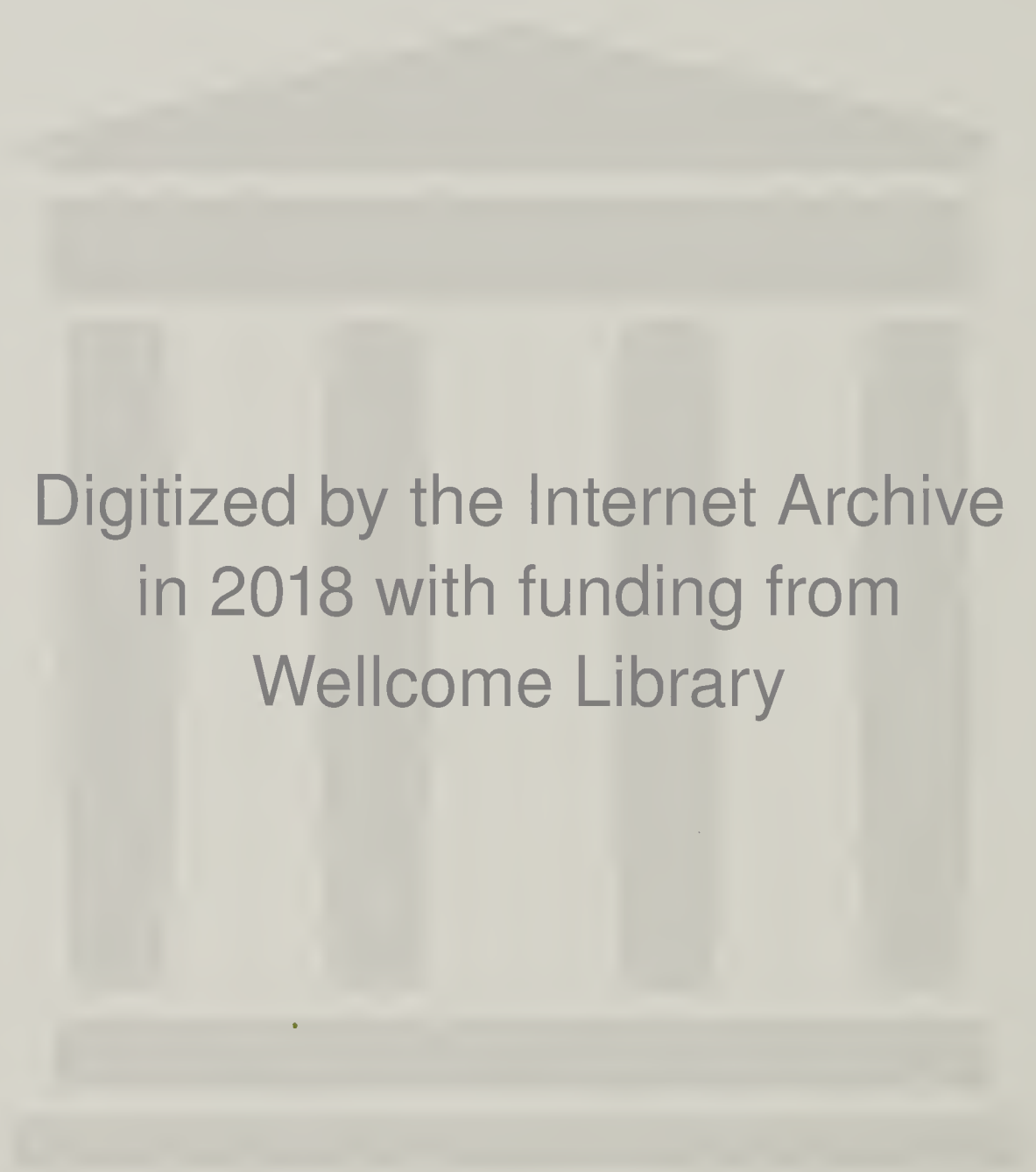
**UTTOXETER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

of the
**Medical Officer of Health
and of the Senior Sanitary
Inspector**

FOR THE YEAR 1954

AUGUST, 1955



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ANNUAL REPORT

Council Offices,
Holly Dene,
High Street,
Uttoxeter, Staffs.

August, 1955.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Uttoxeter Rural District Council*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the Uttoxeter Rural District for the year 1954.

This report is prepared on the lines indicated by the Minister in the Ministry of Health Circular 28/54 (England), dated the 15th December, 1954.

Vital Statistics

In the Uttoxeter Rural District the Birth Rate of 14.7 per 1,000 estimated civilian population was lower than the birth rate 15.2 per 1,000 of the population of the country as a whole, but higher than that recorded in the Rural District for 1953. The Still-birth Rate for your district was 0.36 per 1,000 of the civilian population, higher than the stillbirth rate for your district last year, which was 0.17 per 1,000 estimated population.

This year I have to record that the infant death rate in your district is higher than 1953, and also that the neo-natal death rate, or the death rate of infants in the first month, is higher. This point is brought out in a table presenting together these various rates with reference to the last eight years, which is contained in the body of this report. The increase is due to the increase in the number of infant deaths of one year and of under four weeks from Birth Injuries and other diseases.

In a small unit of population such as this district comprises, where the total number of births seldom exceeds 200, quite large fluctuations of infant death rates are to be expected, but, even so, it is always more satisfactory when the pendulum swings low rather than high. In 1954 there were 164 births, 82 were vaccinated, making 50.7% of all births. 25 adults were vaccinated.

The Death Rate for your district is 9.09 which is higher than the rate for 1953, 1952 and 1951. In 1954 it is lower than that for England and Wales, which is 11.13.

The Effective Reproduction Rate for England and Wales for 1954 has not been published, but from local statistics, there appears to be a slight increase.

During 1954, 40 children under 3 years of age, received protective inoculation against Whooping Cough.

During 1954, 164 births were recorded—83 were at home and 81 were born elsewhere—a maternity home or hospital.

Infectious Disease

Notifications were received during 1954 with respect to 14 cases of Measles, 8 cases of Scarlet Fever and 13 cases of Whooping Cough. In 1954 the number of cases of Measles and Whooping Cough were lower than for 1953, and there was an increase in the Pneumonia cases. No cases of acute Poliomyelitis were notified and there were 19 cases of Food Poisoning. There were no deaths from Acute Pneumonia but six deaths occurred from Pneumonia (Secondary).

During 1954 there were no deaths from Influenza or Primary Pneumonia.

Housing

In 1954 40 houses were completed, leaving 22 under construction.

Health Exhibition and Education

During 1954, no Exhibition was held ; for details of Health Education, see body of report.

Additional Sanitary Inspector

During 1954 he has been fully occupied until he resigned and left in October, 1954.

Conclusion

I record personally my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their kindness to me since I became the Medical Officer, and to all the officials of the Council who gave me their support and help in compiling this annual report.

I desire to draw your notice to the following facts :—

1. Decrease in the number of babies vaccinated (50.7).
2. Number of persons per house is 3.6.—a decrease.
3. Decrease in the number of children of all ages immunised against Diphtheria, from 65.5% to 64.5%.
4. 50.6% of births occurred at home.
5. Increase in Birth Rate from 13.4 to 14.7.
6. A rise in Stillbirth Rate from 0.17 to 0.30.
7. Increase in Death Rate from 7.9. to 9.09.
8. Increase in the Infant Death Rate and no change in the Neo-Natal Rate.
9. A Weather Summary has been added, through the courtesy of Mr. S. Elkes, O.B.E., and Mr. Smith.
10. Marked decrease in the number of cases of Infectious Diseases.
11. It is with regret that I am unable to give the same details as regards Birth Rates, Death Rates and analysis of Mortality in certain sections of the community as the Registrar General has not issued the above details for 1954.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. W. M. BATTERSBY,
Medical Officer of Health.

UTTOXETER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman—Councillor J. E. BIRCH, J.P.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor A. WILLIAMS

Members

Councillor T. B. Bettson	Councillor F. J. Potts
„ A. Birch	„ W. Ratcliffe
„ R. C. Ball	„ S. S. Robinson
„ J. T. Bonsall	„ J. Salisbury
„ P. K. Cottrell, J.P.	„ W. Salt
„ C. A. Clowes	„ G. G. Shenton
„ C. Green	„ F. W. Snow, C. C.
„ E. Hudson	„ A. J. Smith
„ J. Holmes	„ R. G. Wilson
„ J. A. Mason	
„ W. A. Oldham	
„ E. Pattinson	

Chairman of Health Committee

Councillor W. A. OLDHAM

Deputy Chairman of Health Committee

Councillor R. G. WILSON

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health

A. W. M. BATTERSBY, L.R.C.P. and S., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Certified Food Inspector

A. F. WARD, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector

J. GOULDEN, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.—Left—October 1954

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	.....	Acres, 55,228
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population		
(Mid 1954)	.....	11,100
Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1954,		
according to the Rate Books	.....	3,033
Rateable Value	.....	£53,372
Sum represented by the product of 1d. Rate	.....	£215
Number of Persons per Acre	.....	0.20
Number of Houses per Acre	.....	0.055
Average Number of Persons per House	.....	3.6
Estimated Population to December, 1954	.....	11,190

The seventeen Parishes of the Uttoxeter Rural District comprise, in the main, agricultural communities whose principal concern is dairy and, to a lesser extent, arable farming. The three principal villages in the district are Rocester, Mayfield and Abbots Bromley, and two of these parishes offer alternative employment to agricul-

ture. Thus there is a cotton mill at Rocester and a silk mill at Mayfield. In addition, quite a number of the residents in your district find work at the agricultural implement factory in Uttoxeter, at the various residential schools in the area, and on transport and other services. A proportion of the residents of your district who are not engaged in agricultural pursuits live in your district, very often at some distance from their place of occupation, because of the difficulty of obtaining housing accommodation in the urban areas adjacent to their place of employment.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS				
<i>Live Births</i>		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.....	72	90	162
Illegitimate	.....	1	1	2
		—	—	—
		73	91	164
		—	—	—
Birth Factor	.....	.....	.....	1.13
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 Estimated Population				14.7
				(adjusted B.R. 16.6)
<i>Still Births</i>		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.....	2	2	4
Illegitimate	.....	—	—	—
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births				23.6
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population				0.36
<i>Deaths</i>		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
		47	54	101
Death Factor	.....	.....	.....	1.02
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population				9.09
				(adjusted D.R. 9.27)
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Deaths from other Maternal Causes				Nil
<i>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age</i>				
		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.....	3	2	5
Illegitimate	.....	—	—	—
		—	—	—
		3	2	5
		—	—	—
<i>Death Rate of Infants under one year</i>				
All infants per 1,000 Live Births				30.3
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births				30.8
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births				Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	.....	.....	.....	16
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	.....	.....	.....	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	3	1	4
	—	—	—

Population Estimates (Mid 1954)—

* Children, 0— 4 years	860
* „ 5—14 years	1,700

* Estimated by Statistical Method

(Published by permission of Registrar General).

All ages	11,100
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PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

Uttoxeter Rural District, 1954.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Heart Diseases	15	19	34
Cancer	6	10	16
Intra-cranial vascular leisons	5	12	17
All other causes	6	3	9
Nephritis	1	—	1
Pneumonia	4	1	5
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Other diseases of the Circulatory System	1	1	2
Bronchitis	3	3	6
Other digestive diseases	—	1	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	1	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	—	1
Diabetes	—	1	1
Other respiratory diseases	—	—	—
Other Infective Diseases	—	—	—
Influenza	1	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—
Maternal causes	—	—	—
Road Accidents	—	—	—
Congenital malformations, birth injury and Infant Disease	2	—	2
Suicide	1	—	1
Other Accidents	—	2	2
Leukaemia	—	—	—
Diseases of Prostate	1	—	1
Gastritis and Enteritis	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	47	54	101
	—	—	—

Of the 101 Deaths : 69 died in their home.
32 died in Hospital.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1954 AND THE ELEVEN PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Rates per 1,000 Estimated Population.			Rate per 1000 Live Births.
	Birth Rate	Stillbirth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Death Rate
1954	14.7	0.36	9.09	30.3
1953	13.4	0.17	7.9	26.17
1952	15.93	0.26	8.2	60.1
1951	15.9	0.26	8.5	5.78
1950	14.7	0.28	12.04	18.9
1949	15.1	0.39	9.62	37.00
1948	16.8	0.65	10.74	22.78
1947	17.7	0.10	11.00	62.90
1946	18.0	0.41	11.20	39.80
1945	19.7	1.06	14.25	37.80
1944	17.0	0.73	10.44	61.35
1943	15.8	0.82	10.90	32.70

CANCER DEATHS.

Noted below are the total annual deaths from Cancer according to sex with regard to your District during 1954, and the 11 previous years. The percentage which these Cancer deaths form of the total deaths is also shown.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Percentage of Total Deaths</i>
1954	6	10	16	15.8%
1953	6	6	12	13.3%
1952	6	4	10	10.4%
1951	8	7	15	6.1%
1950	9	9	18	13.9%
1949	4	6	10	9.4%
1948	11	8	19	17%
1947	11	9	20	18%
1946	9	5	14	13%
1945	6	12	18	13%
1944	9	6	15	15%
1943	3	10	13	12%

Summary of Site of Cancer :

Breast	2 Females	Lungs	Nil
Stomach	1 Male	Others	12

**Infant Mortality and Neo-Natal Mortality Rates per 1,000
Live Births along with Still Birth Mortality Rates per 1,000
Still and Live Births 1946—1954.**

Year	Infant Mortality Rate	Mortality Rate 1—12 months	Neo-natal Mortality Rate	Still Birth Rate
1954	30.3	30.5	24.3	13.07
1953	26.17	26.3	—	12.9
1952	60.0	39.3	22.4	16.5
1951	5.78	5.78	—	22.4
1950	18.9	18.9	18.9	20.0
1949	3.7	18.86	18.86	Nil
1948	27.78	16.67	—	37.43
1947	62.9	11.47	51.43	5.4
1946	39.8	22.7	17.1	22.2

**Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates, and Analysis of Mortality
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—**

	Uttoxeter Rural District	England and Wales
Births		
Live Births	14.17	15.2
Still Births	0.36	0.36
Deaths		
All Causes	9.09	11.3
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	0.23
Diphtheria	—	0.01
Tuberculosis	0.18	0.18
Influenza	0.09	N.K.
Smallpox	—	N.K.
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	0.003
Pneumonia	0.4	0.60

Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—

Deaths		
All causes under 1 year of age	30.3	26.8
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	—	N.K.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Facilities

In so far as your District is concerned, laboratory facilities were available during 1954 in the County town of Stafford, some fourteen miles distant. Specimens and samples submitted to these laboratories for investigation were transmitted mainly by 'bus, both by the Medical Practitioners in your District, and by this Department.

Ambulance Facilities

(Controlled by Area Health Committee)

During 1954 a 24-hour service has been maintained by the Staffordshire County Ambulance Service. There are six ambulance cars stationed at Uttoxeter—two can be adapted for sitting cases, and also one Civil Defence ambulance.

Since 1951 the station has been at Heath House, Uttoxeter. The staff consists of 17 men and there are three shifts of eight hours. One vehicle has been replaced.

Nursing in the Home

(Controlled by Area Health Committee)

This service is carried out by the District Nurses, and one Nurse is available for each of the parishes as follows :—

- 1—Okeover, Stanton, Mayfield, Wootton, Ramshorn and Ellastone.
- 2—Rocester and Denstone.
- 3—Leigh, Kingstone (Gratwich only) and Croxden.
- 4—Uttoxeter Rural and Kingstone (except Gratwich).
- 5—Abbots Bromley and Blithfield. Nurse now available.
- 6—Marchington, Draycott-in-the-Clay and Newborough.

The request for this service comes from the private doctor or from the hospital when the patient is discharged.

In most cases the nurse undertakes the duties of a general nurse, a midwife, and in some cases also carries out the duties of a Health Visitor and of School Nurse in the parish for which they are responsible.

Since 1954 the Nursing Services for the parishes of Abbots Bromley and Blithfield were undertaken by the following nurses :—
Abbots Bromley and Blithfield :

Nurse Dunn, of Abbots Bromley, for General and Midwifery Services in the village and for Blithfield.

Nurse Francis, of Stramshall, Health Visiting for the parish of Abbots Bromley and Blithfield.

HOSPITALS, TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

Hospitals

As there are no hospitals in the Uttoxeter Rural District, and as in previous years, the arrangements in this connection were as follows :—

Infectious Diseases

In 1954 most cases were treated at Bucknall Hospital, which is under the Stoke Board. When no accommodation could be arranged at Bucknall the cases went to Derby Isolation Hospital.

General Medical and Surgical Cases

Patients suffering from medical or surgical conditions on account of which they required to be admitted to hospital went mainly to the Infirmaries at Derby, Stoke-on-Trent and Burton-on-Trent. Whereas, under the National Health Service Act, 1946 the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary at Derby was included in the Sheffield Hospital Region, and other three Infirmaries referred to above were situated in the Birmingham Hospital Region. Nevertheless, it is possible for patients from Uttoxeter Rural District to be admitted to any of these hospitals, irrespective of the administrative boundary.

Tuberculosis Beds

Provision for the institutional treatment of patients suffering from this disease is the responsibility of the appropriate Regional Hospital Board. The shortage of nursing staff, and especially of staff trained and willing to nurse this type of case, has been reflected in the waiting lists for sanatoria and in the difficulty which medical practitioners have experienced in having such cases removed from their homes. Your district has, of course, not suffered any more in this connection than other parts of the country. It is to be hoped, however, that the improvement in the recruitment of nurses which is now taking place will very shortly result in some alleviation of this very serious state of affairs.

Maternity and Gynaecological Cases

Maternity and Gynaecological cases were again mainly admitted to the Derbyshire Hospital for Women, the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent, and the Ashbourne Maternity Home.

Home and Domestic Help Service

(Controlled by Area Health Committee)

This is one of the services provided under the National Health Service Act, for which the Local Health Authority, with the approval of the Minister, may recover from the persons availing themselves of it such charges (if any) as the Authority considers reasonable, having regard to the means of those persons.

This entails, in those cases in which the applicant states that he is unable to pay the full amount, an assessment of income and the application of a scale which results in the charge (if any) which is made for the services of the Home Help being related to what the individual is able to pay.

Those who can pay are asked to pay, but those who cannot are not asked to pay the full charge, but only a modified charge, and in some cases pay no charge.

In the Rural area there are twelve part-time Helps. The service has been very successful and is appreciated by those who make use of the service. The demand is gradually increasing. Twenty cases were dealt with during 1954.

CLINICS

Tuberculosis Dispensary

As the Uttoxeter clinic was closed in 1953, the patients now have to visit the Clinic at Stafford or Burton by appointment. The homes of the patients are now visited by the Tuberculosis Health Visitors.

Minor Ailments Clinic

The local education authority, the Staffordshire County Council, during 1954 continued to provide a Minor Ailments Clinic only on Friday morning and now held at Heath House Centre.

Infant Welfare Clinic

The Staffordshire County Council during 1954 as the local health authority, provided an Infant Welfare Centre in Uttoxeter at which sessions were held each Friday afternoon. Sited at Heath House since 1st October, 1951.

A Welfare Centre is held in Abbots Bromley every fortnight.

Ante-Natal Clinic

An Ante-Natal Clinic is provided in Uttoxeter in a similar manner to the Infant Welfare Centre by the Staffordshire County Council. Sessions are held fortnightly on Friday afternoons. A Midwife attends and all Midwives are invited to attend and to bring their cases.

Dental Clinic

Every Saturday morning a Dental session is held for the treatment of schoolchildren and expectant and nursing mothers.

This Clinic serves the Urban and Rural Districts of Uttoxeter and is situated at Heath House. Urgent cases can be sent besides the cases arranged to attend for treatment.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Sanitary Inspections—Summary of Visits

Inspection of houses for defects	74
Re-inspection of houses as to repairs	155
Inspection of Tents, Vans and Sheds	47
Inspections re Overcrowding and Housing Applications	26
Verminous and Dirty Premises	11
Visits to Houses not being capable of repair at reasonable expense (Section XI—Housing Act, 1936)	127
Inspection of Houses (Regarding Improvements Grants).....	27
Drainage Inspections	95
Food Preparing Premises—Ice Cream	23
Other Foods	31
Cafes	11
Food Poisoning	123
Licensed Premises	18
Infection of Milk Supply	22
Inspections under Milk and Dairies Regulations	24
Slaughterhouses	128
Meat Inspections (Including Regional Slaughterhouse)	309
Knacker Yards	5
Infectious Disease	26
Disinfections and Fumigations	6
Samples of Water for Chemical and Bacteriological Examinations	61
Visits re Water Supply	74
Ditches and Water Courses	54
Public Cleansing Service	186
Visits re nightsoil collection	192
Refuse Tips Supervision	104
Refuse Receptacles	61
Accumulations of Refuse	34
Rodent Control	168
Keeping of Animals	24
Provision of Sanitary Accommodation (including Schools)	83
Privy Conversions	29
Factories (including Bakehouses)	38
Shops Act	27
Smoke Observations	6
Miscellaneous Visits	58
Other Nuisances	31
<hr/>	
Total	2,518
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Notices served during year	No. served	No. Complied with (Served 1954 and previously)
Informal notices and letters as to general matters	50	43
Verbal notices as to general matters	21	21
Informal notices to provide dustbins.....	33	33
Statutory Notices :		
(a) Housing Act, 1936	Nil	Nil
(b) Public Health Act, 1936	Nil	Nil

Complaints received and dealt with during the year.

Total number received	70
General Disrepair of Dwellings	25
Others	45

WATER SUPPLY

There have been a number of alterations with reference to the principal sources of water supply in your district during 1954, and, as indicated in this report last year, the various parishes are supplied as follows :—

Mayfield—The Council are the water authority for this parish.

The source consists of a borehole 252 ft. in the bunter sandstone and the water is pumped into a service reservoir of 50,000 gallons capacity from where the water gravitates to all parts. Electricity became available at the pumping station in 1953, and in February, 1954 the Council installed new pumping equipment, consisting of deep well submersible pumping unit capable of 4,000 gallons per hour. with the result that a better supply is available, and has enabled further farms in the area to receive a supply.

Denstone, Rocester, Stramshall, and Bramshall—Bulk supply from the Urban District Council. The whole of Bramshall now gets the water from this source, and the supply is adequate for all purposes.

Abbots Bromley, Kingstone (part), Newborough (part, Draycott-in-the-Clay (part) and Marchington (part)—These portions of your district lie within the statutory limits of supply of the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

Marchington Woodlands Scheme—During the year eleven properties were connected to the main and the Council are pressing the remaining property to connect.

Mayfield, Stanton, Wootton and Ellastone Scheme—The Ministry of Housing and Local Government held an enquiry into the above scheme but no decision received in the year 1954.

Beamhurst Water Supply—90% of the properties have been connected to the main.

Great Gate (part), Leigh—Bulk supply from the Cheadle Rural District Council.

Croxden—Supplied by private piped supply.

The villages of Ellastone, Ramshorn, Stanton, Wootton and Okeover rely mainly on surface wells and springs.

The Uttoxeter U.D.C. agreed to a number of connections for water from their main as it runs through your district from Prestwood to Bramshall.

Many of the shallow wells and springs at present in use in certain parts of your district are unreliable both as to quality and quantity.

The Hoar Cross Scheme was completed in 1950 and all connected by 1954, who desired a supply.

WATER ANALYSIS

The supply of water to the houses and farms in the area is derived from varying sources, ranging from a piped mains supply in some districts to wells and springs in more remote parts of the area.

The supplies to those properties without a piped supply are frequently found to be of unsatisfactory quality. In cases where the water was found to be unfit and measures to remedy same were practicable and reasonable, such work was carried out. Where remedial measures could not be carried out or water mains laid on, users have been advised to boil or sterilise the water before drinking.

Sample of Water from Public Supply—Reservoir, Swinscoe Hill, Mayfield

Bacteriological Examination Report

Date and Hour of Collection	.....	17.3.54	10-30 a.m.
Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days at 37°C.	.....	Nil for 100 ml.	

Chemical Analysis

			Parts per 100,000
Total solid matter dried at 212°F.	.....	.....	31.5
Free and Saline Ammonia	.....	.....	Nil.
Albuminoid Ammonia	.....	.....	0.0004
Nitric Nitrogen	.....	.....	0.20
Chlorine	.....	.....	1.30
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	.....	.....	0.027
Appearance	.....	Minute trace of suspended matter	
Metallic Contamination	.....	.....	None
pH Value	.....	.....	7.3
Hardness Before Boiling	.....	.....	18°
Hardness After Boiling	.....	.....	8°
Temporary Hardness	.....	.....	10°

Source.	No. of Samples taken for Bacterio- logical and Chemical Analysis	Results		
		Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Doubt- ful
Wells (Public)	2	1	1	—
Wells (Private)	22	1	18	3
Springs (Private)	9	1	5	3
Springs (Public)	4	1	2	1
Boreholes (Private)	2	—	2	—
Mains Supplies :				
(a) Public	18	13	5	—
(b) Private	4	—	2	2
	61	17	35	9

The number of dwelling houses and the approximate population supplied with water directly from public mains is shown below for each Parish :—

Parish	Population of Parish Dec. 1954	Number of houses with piped water supply	Estimated Pop. with piped supply
Abbots Bromley	1,420	234	980
Blithfield	315	24	135
Croxden	262	11	47
Denstone	610	81	342
Draycott-in-the-Clay	900	99	328
Ellastone	295	Nil	Nil
Kingstone	360	66	287
Leigh	960	209	796
Marchington	760	72	322
Mayfield	1,962	436	1,446
Newborough	570	44	186
Okeover	60	Nil	Nil
Ramshorn	64	Nil	Nil
Rocester	1,290	286	1,132
Stanton	264	Nil	Nil
Uttoxeter Rural	1,028	138	502
Wootton	148	Nil	Nil

During 1954 four stand pipes were in use, three in the parish of Mayfield and one in the parish of Rocester.

The number of houses served in Mayfield are 16 and a population of 56. In the case of Rocester one house is served and used by one person.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The existing systems of sewerage and sewage disposal in the three principal villages in your district—namely, Abbots Bromley, Mayfield and Rocester—are most unsatisfactory, and, as pointed out in last year's report, there is no doubt that serious nuisance arises in these parishes as a result. Detailed sewage schemes for each of these three parishes have been drawn up by the Council's Consulting Engineers, and the approval of the Ministry of Health to the work being undertaken is still awaited.

A Sewage Works Attendant has been working on a whole-time basis to carry out the day-to-day maintenance of the sewage works and sewers in the various parishes of your district.

The following work, mainly of the nature of repair and improvement of existing sewage works, was carried out in 1954 :—

<i>Parish</i>			
Mayfield.....	.....	}	Major repairs commenced in 1953 completed in 1954—except for two valves for the Stramshall Works.
Stramshall	.....	
Denstone	.....	

DETAILS OF SEWERAGE SCHEMES

Abbots Bromley

This consists briefly of a collecting chamber and then a land irrigation system. The works are 90 years old, I am informed, and from personal knowledge the effluent from the works is, as far as practical purposes are concerned, untreated. The land is sewage sick and is a breeding ground for flies. In a hot summer—a fly nuisance. A scheme for a modern sewerage system was sent to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in 1953. In my opinion the present system is injurious to the health of the inhabitants of Abbots Bromley. In 1951 there were seven cases of Dysentery and in 1952 there were 32 cases. I feel certain the disease when present was spread by flies and no carrier could be found. The present system is insanitary, overloaded and prevents the conversion of pail closets (162) into W.C. and hinders new housing schemes. There were no cases of Dysentery in 1954 or 1953.

Mayfield

The existing system is overloaded, and, in addition, its drainage for the Mill emptyings (430 people) and from a further 46 houses discharge untreated into the River Dove. The conversion of further Earth Closets (200) to W.C. cannot be carried out because of the present inadequate sewerage system. In a warm summer there is a fly nuisance, which is a definite danger to the inhabitants. A new scheme was submitted to the Ministry in 1953.

Rocester

The existing scheme is grossly overloaded and insanitary—there being no satisfactory purification before the effluent is discharged into the river. This prevents the conversion of Earth Closets (100) into W.C. A new scheme was submitted to the Ministry in 1953.

SEWERAGE SCHEMES

Parishes of Abbots Bromley, Rocester and Mayfield

On the 11th and 12th June, 1953, Col. S. K. Gilbert held a local investigation into three schemes on behalf of the Minister of Housing and Local Government. A visit was made to the three parishes.

In September, 1953, a letter was received by the Clerk from the Ministry in which it was stated that the proposals for the three schemes were approved in principle, but in the cases of Mayfield and Rocester that the schemes would be deferred. As regards Abbots Bromley, the Minister stated that he would be prepared to consider formal approval for the scheme after receipt of detailed drawings for the new Pumping Station and Disposal Works. This scheme is to be in three stages :—

First Stage	.....	New Disposal Works
Second Stage	.....	New Sewers in Abbots Bromley.
Third Stage	.....	Branch Sewers

During 1954 detailed plans for 1st Stage were submitted to the Ministry for approval.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Endeavour is made to convert as many privy-middens as possible, and this fact, coupled with housing development, has caused an increase in the number of bins to be emptied.

Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, still causes the Department anxiety when serving notices for renewal or initial supply of a dustbin, but despite protests from owners, no appeal to a Court has yet been made.

It has been possible to continue a bi-weekly collection from approximately 2,800 dwellings, and this service is afforded to all properties having a reasonably good access road. The total miles covered by the vehicles was 15,175 and 6 men were engaged on this work, and in levelling and soil covering tips.

Two modern type low loading refuse vehicles (12 c.yd. capacity) were used on this work with a tipper lorry as an auxiliary vehicle. During the year it was necessary to decarbonise, overhaul and paint vehicle V.R.E. 627.

Refuse disposal continued along the lines of the previous year, the extreme north part of the district being served by a refuse tip at Clifton, which is outside the Uttoxeter Rural Council area. By arrangement with the Ashbourne Rural District Council, a portion of their Clifton tip is used, and this prevents a long haul to our own tip at Denstone.

In September, 1952, tipping was commenced at Denstone, where eventually a portion of the canal cutting near the junction of the Ellastone/Alton and Uttoxeter/Denstone roads, will be filled.

A useful dual purpose will be fulfilled, as in addition to the disposal of the refuse, valuable ground will be re-claimed for agricultural use.

The other refuse tips at Marchington, Leigh and Abbots Bromley were again in use during 1954, and in continuance of my practice to obtain central tips with a minimum haul for the vehicles, it will be necessary in 1955, to obtain further sites in the above parishes.

As far as is practicable, tipping is "controlled" and every effort is made to maintain the tips in a hygienic condition, free from nuisance, insect and rat infestation.

NIGHTSOIL COLLECTION SERVICE

During the year, every endeavour was made to retain a weekly collection service, despite the fact that the number of pails is on the increase.

This service, having been instituted in September, 1951, has proved a great asset to the area, particularly as there is no immediate prospect of the sewage schemes being proceeded with.

Complaints do arise that collection does not always take place on the same day each week, although the occupants of the premises making the complaints, did, prior to 1951, have to empty their own pails as a matter of routine.

There are bound to be some lapses from the 7 day collection as 1 day per month, the vehicle is garaged for greasing, washing etc.

The vehicle used is a 800 gallon cesspool emptying machine, fitted with hopper attachment, and to maintain the ever increasing pail emptying, it is not possible to carry out cesspool emptying.

The nightsoil is composted with straw and other vegetable matter, and the resultant material of high manurial value has been disposed of to farmers and market gardeners.

The following table shows the number of pails emptied weekly, together with conversion work carried out during 1954. The total miles covered by the vehicle was 11,130, the number of pails emptied being 1,020 each week.

Collection District	No. of Pails	Conversions in 1954
Abbots Bromley	119	4
Beamhurst	24	—
Bramshall	40	—
Croxden, Stramshall	45	—
Denstone and Prestwood	35	—
Draycott-in-the-Clay	70	2
Ellastone	60	1
Kingstone	53	1
Leigh	88	2
Marchington	82	4
Mayfield and Okeover	43	2
Newborough	93	3
Newton, Admaston	15	1
Ramshorn and Wootton	20	3
Rocester and District	146	5
Stanton	34	1
Houses in the Uttoxeter Urban District Council Area	23	1
Total	990	30

It will be noted that the pails from 24 properties within the Uttoxeter Urban District are emptied weekly, and your vehicle is also used for the emptying of pails and tanks at Uttoxeter Race-course the cost of all such work is chargeable upon the Urban District Council.

HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during 1954.

- (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Act).55
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose227
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under subhead (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.40
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose123
- (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.....15
- (4) No. of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....25

2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.42

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

- (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936 :
 - (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.Nil.
 - (ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By owners..... Nil.
 - (b) By local authority in default of owners.....Nil.
- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :
 - (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.Nil.
 - (ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :
 - (a) By owners.....Nil.
 - (b) By local authority in default of owners.....Nil.

- (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
- (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....4
- (ii) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under sub-section (3) of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.3
- (iii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.1
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
- (i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.Nil.
- (ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.Nil.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

The figures below are extracted from the Annual Report submitted by the Medical Officer to the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

- (1) Inspections by the Sanitary Inspector for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Non-Mechanical	5	6	1	—
(2) Mechanical Factories	31	32	—	—
Total	36	38	1	—

- (2) Cases in which defects were found :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found	
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	1	1
Other offences	1	1

Outworkers.—There are now no outworkers in the district.

RODENT CONTROL

A full-time rodent operative is employed by the Council and works under the direction of your Sanitary Inspector.

During the illness of the Rodent Operative, for 16 weeks, your Additional Sanitary Inspector dealt with serious complaints, but the illness of the Operative had considerable effect on the rodent control work carried out.

Throughout the district a free service of rat disinfection is afforded to residential property, while the cost of the work at business premises is rechargeable.

After deduction for rechargeable work, half the nett cost of wages, materials and travelling expenses is reimbursed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Two contracts were again renewed for rodent control, viz :— Sudbury Military Camp, and a Private School at Abbots Bromley.

I must again draw attention to the vast amount of time which has to be spent at Sudbury Military Camp, where the contract provides for complete disinfection of all camp buildings with the Uttoxeter Rural Area. This embodies the whole of the Military and Living Quarters, Food Stores, Canteens, Refuse Tips, Sewage Works, and approximately $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles of brook courses.

Extensive additional buildings are being erected, and it appears that still further time will have to be devoted to keeping the area free from rats.

Number of infestations found and dealt with during 1954.

(a) Private dwellings.....	95
(b) Business premises.....	24
(c) Refuse Tips (Local Authority).....	15
(d) Sewage Works (Local Authority).....	14

With the exception of sewer treatment and a few “ follow up ” cases, Zinc Phosphide is no longer used, and has been superseded by Warfarin.

SEWER TREATMENT

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the treatment of sewers was carried out to ascertain any evidence of rat infestation.

The following tables show the results obtained.

June 1954

Parish	No. of Manholes Treated	Complete take of test bait	Partial Take	No. Take
Abbots Bromley.....	10	—	—	10
Denstone	4	—	—	4
Ellastone	6	—	—	6
Mayfield	10	3	—	7
Rocester	14	5	—	9
Stramshall	9	—	—	9

Treatment consisted of test bait with damp sausage rusk, followed, where necessary, by the addition of 2½% Zinc Phosphide.

November, 1954

The sewers found to be infested at Mayfield and Rocester were again tested in 1954 with the following results.

Parish	No. of Manholes Treated	Complete take of test bait	Partial Take	No. Take
Mayfield	3	—	—	3
Rocester	5	4	—	1

Poisoning was again carried out in the Rocester sewers. The infestation at Mayfield and Rocester was due to the rats gaining access during building operations.

FARM SURVEY FOR RAT INFESTATION

During the year, 295 farms were visited to ascertain any rat infestation, and of this number, 9 were found to be infested.

5 farms were disinfested by the Council's operative, and the remaining 4 were referred to the Staffordshire County Pests Officer of the A.E.C.

For this survey work, and the carrying out of all his general duties, your Rodent Operative made 932 inspections and re-inspections.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There was, during 1954 a noticeable decrease in the number of caravans temporarily stationed in the area, and your Sanitary Inspectors made 47 inspections in connection with this section of their work.

The 4 caravans previously licensed were kept in good condition, and licences renewed for a further 12 months. No new applications were received during the year.

As a result of continued policy of frequent inspection, the grass verges, etc., were left in a fairly good condition after the visits of the nomadic type of caravan dweller.

LICENSED PREMISES

Visits have been made to various premises within the area to endeavour to obtain adequate facilities for the washing of glasses, etc. Where possible, co-operation has been received, but great difficulties exist in many places, due to the lack of a main piped water supply to the premises concerned.

SHOPS ACT

The Uttoxeter Rural District Council do not possess delegated powers for the administration of certain sections of the Shops

Act, but 92 visits were made to shops within the rural areas.

Being a rural community, there are few large shops in the district, the typical being the smaller type of house and combined shop.

Generally, the sanitation is satisfactory, having in mind in many cases, the absence of mains water, and sewerage system.

HOUSING

40 houses were completed by this Council during 1954 and 22 others were under construction.

<i>Parish</i>					<i>No. completed</i>
Abbots Bromley	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Mayfield.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28
Newborough	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Stramshall	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
					—
					40
					—

Housing Waiting List

1—Number of Persons on Housing Waiting List at 1st January, 1954 :—

Abbots Bromley	.....	.....	.....	.....	28
Blithfield	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Denstone	.....	.....	.....	.....	33
Draycott-in-the-Clay	.....	.....	.....	.....	30
Ellastone	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Kingstone	.....	.....	.....	.....	26
Leigh	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Marchington	.....	.....	.....	.....	22
Mayfield.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46
Newborough	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Rocester	.....	.....	.....	.....	54
Uttoxeter Rural	.....	.....	.....	.....	71
					—
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	378
					—

2—Number of persons on Housing Waiting List at 31st December, 1954 :—

Abbots Bromley	.....	.....	.....	.....	29
Blithfield	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Denstone	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Draycott-in-the-Clay	.....	.....	.....	.....	45
Kingstone	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
Leigh	.....	.....	.....	.....	30
Marchington	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
Mayfield.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	57
Newborough	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
Rocester	.....	.....	.....	.....	36
Uttoxeter Rural	.....	.....	.....	.....	48
					—
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	334
					—

In addition, one house was completed by private enterprise and one under construction.

No provision is made on the Housing Application Form for applicant to state type of house required.

CIVIL BUILDING LICENCES

Restrictions lifted—No Licences now required.

The very difficult question of the allocation of the tenancies of houses continued to receive much consideration by this Council. During the year under review, despite the Council's heavy waiting list of those with no houses at all, opportunity was taken to re-house a small number of overcrowded families who were living under very insanitary conditions. Special regard was had to families comprising a large number of young children, and there is no doubt that the health and well-being of such children has benefitted by the progressive attitude adopted in this matter by the Council at a time when housing accommodation was in such demand.

Number of Council houses at end of 1954 :—

Pre-War	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	130
Post-War	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	368
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	498

IMPROVEMENT GRANT—Housing Act, 1949

Nine applications received during 1954 :

6 Approved.
1 Refused
2 Withdrawn

FOOD INSPECTION

Particulars of Food inspected during 1954

(a) Meat ; Carcases inspected and condemnations made.

	Bulls and Bullocks	Cows	Heifers	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and notified	31	37	117	7	428	142
Number inspected	31	37	117	7	428	142
All Diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcases condemned	—	5	2	1	5	2
Part or organ	3	9	14	1	18	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	9.7%	38%	14%	28%	5%	3%
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	1
Part or organ	—	9	5	—	—	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	25%	4.3%	—	—	2.2%

Total weight of meat condemned, 5,417 lbs.

Prior to July the only animals killed in the Rural Area were at the Casualty Slaughterhouse, which accounts for the high percentage of meat condemned.

(b) Other Foods Condemned

			lbs.	ozs.
Tinned Fruit (miscellaneous)	.....	.....	32	13½
„ Vegetables	.....	.....	5	11
„ Meat and Ham	.....	.....	91	5
„ Fish	.....	.....	3	5½
„ Milk	.....	.....	1	—
„ Tomatoes	.....	.....	23	11
„ puddings	.....	.....	10	—
Cheese	.....	.....	8	—
			175	14

Total weight of all foods condemned, 5,592 lbs.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector deputised as Meat Inspector at the Government Regional Slaughterhouse in Uttoxeter, during the absence of the Uttoxeter Urban District Council’s Sanitary Inspector, and during 1954 made 20 visits.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The Slaughterhouse Act, 1954, came into operation in July, 1954, and among its main provisions was the duty laid upon local authorities to provide adequate slaughtering facilities within their area.

In this connection the Uttoxeter Rural District Council in conjunction with the Uttoxeter Urban District Council, held meetings with local meat traders and farmers to ascertain their requirements.

A comprehensive survey was made by your Sanitary Inspectors, and as a result of applications received, improvement works were carried out to 5 Slaughterhouses, and licences granted for a period expiring 31st July, 1957.

Applications were received from 3 persons wishing to establish slaughterhouses for wholesale meat business, and these applications were referred to the Ministry of Food. In view of the fact that adequate facilities had been provided in the area, the licences were not granted.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933-1954

In accordance with the above legislation 16 licences were granted to expire December, 1955, and of this number 3 empowered the slaughter of horses within the Uttoxeter Rural Area.

FOOD PREPARING PREMISES AND FOOD SHOPS

Regular visits have been made to the food preparing premises etc., within the district.

All the premises are registered in conformity with the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and at December, 1954, there were 7 premises registered for preparation or manufacture of preserved food, and 23 shops from which Ice Cream was sold.

No Ice Cream is manufactured in the Uttoxeter Rural District Council Area, the commodity being “ pre-wrapped ” and obtained from reputable firms.

The School Canteen closed by negotiation in 1952, has been modernised and reopened for use in 1954.

Action under Diseases of Animals Act

1—Anthrax Order, 1938 :

No confirmed case.

Two cases not confirmed.

2—Swine Fever Order, 1938 :

3 cases notified to me, but not confirmed.

3—Cases dealt with under Tuberculosis Order, 1938 :

3 ; one total condemnation, two partial condemnation.

Bacteriological Results—Uttoxeter Rural District Council Milk Samples, 1954

1—Brucella Abortus—No positive case.

2—Biological Test for Tubercle Bacilli :

(a) Found positive in 14 cases.

(b) Not found, 123 cases.

3—Action under Milk and Dairies Act :

(a) Diversion Order in two cases.

(b) Informal letter in 12 cases as all milk was submitted for heat treatment prior to retailing.

Public Health Propaganda

No exhibition was staged during 1954, but during the year advisory information was sent to all food shops, cafes and canteens.

A Dog Notice Card is displayed in Food Shops, Cafes and Restaurants.

I am glad to report that all help was accepted in the spirit in which it was sent—To help.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

During 1954 the number of notifications received with respect to the various infectious diseases other than Tuberculosis was as follows :—

<i>To</i>		<i>No. of Cases</i>	
<i>Hospital</i>	<i>Infectious Disease</i>	1954	1953
Nil.	Measles	14	80
2	Scarlet Fever	8	6
—	Whooping Cough	13	72
—	Acute Pneumonia	4	1
—	Food Poisoning	19	25

—	Erysipelas	.....	.....	3	2
—	Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	.....		Nil	Nil
—	Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)			Nil	Nil
—	Dysentery	.....	.....	Nil	Nil
—	Paratyphoid	.....	.....	Nil	Nil
—	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	.....	.....	2	Nil
—	Puerperal Pyrexia	.....	.....	Nil	Nil
—	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	.....	.....	Nil	1
				<hr/> 63	<hr/> 187

In comparison with 1953, the number of cases of Food Poisoning, Measles and Whooping Cough decreased, but the number of cases of Ophthalmia, Erysipelas and Scarlet Fever increased.

The parishes where most cases of Whooping Cough occurred were Draycott and Newborough, whereas in regard to Measles the parishes concerned were Draycott, Marchington and Rocester. With regard to Scarlet Fever, four cases of the eight notified were in Mayfield and two were in Wootton. Pneumonia, two cases occurred in Wootton.

The age distribution of the cases of Measles demonstrates that most cases occur in the age groups 3—4 years and 5—9 years ; for Scarlet Fever most fall into the age group 5—9 years and 10—14 ; for Whooping Cough most cases fall into two groups, 3—4 years and 5—9 years ; the distribution in the case of pneumonia occurs in the age group 25 years and over, as also for Erysipelas.

With regard to all infectious diseases, I feel the year of 1954 has been a satisfactory one—this is supported by the tables for the Rural Districts in this county.

All cases of Measles, Pneumonia and of Whooping Cough were nursed at home. All cases of Erysipelas were nursed at home. Two cases of Scarlet Fever were admitted to hospital, the others had the necessary space to be isolated at home.

During 1954 no deaths were reported from Diphtheria, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Poliomyelitis or Acute Primary Pneumonia, but five deaths were recorded from Secondary Pneumonia and no death was recorded from Whooping Cough.

With regard to the months of “ most cases ” :—

	<i>Uttoxeter R.D.</i>	<i>Uttoxeter U.D.</i>
Measles	April and May	June
Whooping Cough	Feb. and May	Nov. and Dec.
Pneumonia	April	One case in May
Scarlet Fever	June	Nov. and Dec.

Poliomyelitis—Paralytic and Non-Paralytic

No case notified in 1954.

Food Poisoning

19 cases notified in 1954 whereas 25 cases were notified in 1953.

Summary of Food Poisoning for 1954

All cases were in the first quarter and were due to faulty handling of the food in the house concerned ; no food poisoning germs isolated.

Thirteen occurred in adults, seven of the adults were over 50 years of age, one case occurred in a baby of 1½ years—all occurred in the parishes of Abbots Bromley and Blithfield and were notified as suspected cases by the same doctor—investigation yielded a negative report for Salmonella Germs.

Measles

The number decreased from 80 in 1953, to 14 in 1954, a decrease of 20%.

Scarlet Fever

There was a slight increase.

Whooping Cough

The number of cases of Whooping Cough decreased from 72 to 13, a decrease of 20%.

Dysentery

No cases notified in 1954.

No notifications of Diphtheria were received during 1954, nor of Puerperal Pyrexia.

Ophthalmic Neonatarum

Two cases were notified in babies—after treatment, no permanent damage was to be found.

Infectious Diseases

School Investigations during 1954. (i) Mayfield School was visited regarding Scarlet Fever—no carrier found, and no missed cases found.

(ii) A visit was made to a school in Abbots Bromley concerning the outbreak of Diarrhoea among the children. It was found that the outbreak was not due to a germ, nor was it due to faulty handling of the food in the school canteen.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE GROUP.

AGE PERIOD IN YEAR, 1954

	Under 1 year	1—2 years	3—4 years	5—9 years	10—14 years	15—24 years	25 years and over	Age Un- known	Totals	Total
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	
Measles	1 -	1 -	2 4	3 1	- -	- 2	- -	M. F. - -	7 7	14
Scarlet Fever	- -	1 -	- -	2 2	2 1	- -	- -	- -	5 3	8
Whooping Cough	- 2	- -	1 3	2 3	1 -	- 1	- -	- -	4 9	13
Acute Pneumonia	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	3 1	- -	3 1	4
Food Poisoning	- -	1 -	- -	1 2	1 1	- -	6 7	- -	9 10	19
Erysipelas	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2 -	1 -	1 2	3
Acute Poliomyelitis	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
(Paralytic) (Non-Paralytic)	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Dysentery	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Paratyphoid	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Ophthalmia	2 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2 -	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	-

Table giving names of Parishes and the number of houses and approximate population which each contains, along with the incidence of infectious disease in each Parish, during 1954.

No. of Houses in 1931	Name of Parish	No. of Ho'ses	Population of Parish, Dec., 1954	INFECTIOUS DISEASE.						Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	Dysentery	Ophthalmia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Cerebro Spinal Fever
				Meas-les	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Pneumonia	Food Poisoning	Erysipelas						
304	Abbots Bromley	356	1,420	—	1	1	—	17	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
63	Blithfield	77	315	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
47	Croxden	74	202	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
101	Denstone	173	610	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
117	Draycott-in-the-Clay	168	900	2	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
87	Ellastone	90	295	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
68	Kingstone	108	360	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
215	Leigh	270	950	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
199	Marchington	212	763	7	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
327	Mayfield	484	1,962	—	4	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
126	Newborough	148	570	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
14	Okeover	15	60	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16	Ramshorn	18	64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
299	Rocester	420	1,290	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
68	Stanton	69	264	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
309	Uttoxeter Rural	309	1,020	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	Wootton	42	148	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2,360	TOTALS	3,033	11,190	14	8	13	4	19	3	—	—	—	2	—	—

**Infectious Disease.—Incidence in 1954 compared
with the ten previous years.**

Disease	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944
Scarlet Fever	8	6	14	11	16	7	50	9	10	20	34
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Whooping Cough	13	72	39	56	20	41	36	18	19	11	28
Measles	14	80	143	34	95	127	122	108	14	53	130
Erysipelas	3	2	2	3	6	7	2	1	—	3	—
Acute Pneumonia	4	1	6	9	7	1	3	2	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	19	25	4	—	—	—	3	6	1	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	32	7	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	—	1	2	9	1	1	1	—	1	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum	2	—	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Infectious Disease 1954—Months of Occurrence.

Month	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whoop- ing Cough	Acute Pneu- monia	Food Pois- oning	Erysipelas	Acute Polio- myelitis		Dysen- tery	Para- typhoid	Ophthalmia	P. Pyrexia	Cerebro Spinal Fever
							Paralytic	Non- Paralytic					
January	—	—	2	—	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February	—	—	4	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
March	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April	5	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
May	5	2	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
June	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
July	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
September	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
October	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
November	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
December	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	14	8	13	4	19	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—

For your information I give details regarding infectious diseases in the Rural Districts of Staffordshire (10)—1954.

	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Ty- phoid Fever and Paraty- phoid	Acute Primary Pneu- monia	Dysen- tery	Acute Poliomyelitis		Food Poison- ing
						Para- lytic	Non- Para- lytic	
1st Quarter	66	—	—	61	57	—	—	20
2nd Quarter	33	—	—	13	1	1	—	3
3rd Quarter	45	—	—	19	42	2	3	2
4th Quarter	69	—	—	26	11	2	—	5
TOTALS FOR 1954	213	—	—	119	111	5	3	30
TOTALS FOR 1953	238	1	1	188	7	3	3	46

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Under the National Health Scheme, 1945, this responsibility passes to the Local Health Authority, upon which is laid the obligation to arrange for the immunisation of all persons in the area of the Authority (Section 26).

As in previous years, it was possible during 1954 for parents to have their children immunised by their own family doctor free of charge. Immunisation was also available at the Infant Welfare Centre in Uttoxeter and special immunising sessions were also held at the various schools in Uttoxeter Rural District.

The number of children in the Uttoxeter Rural District who completed a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria during 1954 was as follows :—

Children of less than 1 year of age	.....	.....	34
Children aged 1 year to 14 years of age	.....	.....	124
			<hr/>
Total	.....	.....	158
			<hr/>

The following children aged 5 to 14 years of age received a single reinforcing injection	181
---	-------	-------	-----

The estimated percentage of the mid-1954 child population in your district immunised against Diphtheria up to 31st December, 1954 was :—

Under 5 years of age	.....	.....	.....	79.2%
Five to 14 years of age	.....	.....	.....	49.9%
All children	.....	.....	.....	64.5%

The above percentages are very low, especially with respect to the 5 to 14 years of age group.

The fall is due, I feel, to a number of factors including the fear of the child developing Poliomyelitis, family illness and the delay in having this protection.

An inoculation campaign has been held during the year with some success, and will be continued in 1955. I hope with more success. I hope to raise the under 5 group to 85% and the 5 to 14 years up to 75%.

During 1954 no notifications were received with respect to this disease—last case was in 1944.

In this County in 1954 there were 25 cases of Diphtheria.

**UTTOXETER RURAL DISTRICT.
DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION SINCE 1943.**

Year	Number of Protected Children		Total	Number of children receiving reinforcing doses
	Under 5 years	5—14 years		
1954	34	124	168	181
1953	71	18	89	100
1952	95	28	123	209
1951	104	9	113	142
1950	43	6	49	3
1949	165	20	185	143
1948	106	84	190	271
1947	85	1	86	33
1946	110	7	117	—
1945	29	2	31	—
1944	41	8	49	—
1943	172	245	417	—

The above figures refer only to children whose record of immunisation has been received in the Public Health Department.

**Incidence of Diphtheria in the Uttoxeter Rural District
during the last 16 years**

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>
1954	Nil
1953	Nil
1952	Nil
1951	Nil
1950	Nil
1949	Nil
1948	Nil
1947	Nil
1946	Nil
1945	Nil
1944	2
1943	Nil
1942 (Non-Civilian)	1
1941	4
1940	4
1939	14

Average annual incidence (including non-civilian cases), 1.5.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases

No notifications were received during the year with respect to cases of pulmonary tuberculosis or cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Deaths

There was one death from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis during 1954 and one death from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The age and sex distribution of these new cases and deaths were as shown below :—

New Cases

Age Periods	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
One year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Deaths

Age Periods	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 years	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
35 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 years	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	—	1	1	1	—	1	2

Death Rate from Tuberculosis per 1,000 estimated population

Death Rate from Tuberculosis (all forms)	0.18
Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	.....	0.09
Death Rate from other forms of Tuberculosis	.....	0.09
Age of Death from Surgical Tuberculosis for Rural Area is	.....	23

Tuberculosis in the Uttoxeter Rural District, showing for each of the last 12 years the new cases and the deaths, classified as pulmonary and non-pulmonary. The death rate per million from all forms is also given.

Year	Population	New Cases		Deaths		Death Rates per 1,000,000 population
		Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	
1954	11,100	—	—	1	1	180
1953	11,350	4	1	—	1	80
1952	11,170	2	1	1	—	80
1951	10,840	4	4	—	1	90
1950	10,710	8	1	1	1	160
1949	10,950	5	6	3	—	280
1948	10,710	4	3	2	3	373
1947	9,900	3	—	4	1	500
1946	9,710	2	—	—	2	210
1945	9,400	1	1	1	1	210
1944	9,580	2	1	2	1	310
1943	9,710	5	3	4	2	620

Table giving Details of Mortality Rate per Thousand in this County, 1954, all Forms

Combined Rate for Uttoxeter Urban and Rural

District	.....	0.18
Uttoxeter U.D.	.....	Nil
Uttoxeter R.D.	.....	0.18

Results of Milk Samples (Ungraded) for 1954

The following results have been received from the County Medical Officer of Health :—

	Results				T.B.
	% Failed Methylene Blue Test	No. of Samples	Examination for Cleanliness		
			Satisfactory	Failed	
Uttoxeter Urban	13.3%	112	96	16	1
Uttoxeter Rural	12.01%	208	183	26	14

Turbidity Test	15 Tested	All passed
Phosphatase Test	77 Tested	76 passed and 1 Failed.

The test for cleanliness is known as the Methylene Blue Test. It is pleasing to note that the results for 1954 have improved. In the cases where the cleanliness examination was unsatisfactory I requested the co-operation of the Area Milk Production Officer. Where Tubercle Bacilli were found I enlisted the co-operation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Inspector.

Control of Ice Lollies

Although no difficulties have been experienced in this area, I feel I should draw to your notice that there is at present no legal control.

Many area are urging their Rural Association to press the Minister of Health to exercise his power and make a Regulation laying down minimum standards of composition and authorising registration of premises where the lollies are manufactured.

At present the examination of such yields a wide variation, the total solids, including sugars, range from 21% to 0.56%. Some contain a relatively large amount of saccharin. Some contain fruit juice, milk or ice cream—in this 1 case it is felt that this special type of lolly should be the subject of special standards.

Effect of Agenised Bread—Nitrogen Trichloride

To most flour used in the making of bread Agene is added to bleach the flour. It is claimed by certain doctors that Agene is at least one of the causative factors in human beings of nerve disorders and disease of the stomach. At present the Medical Research Council, in association with the Ministry of Food and Health, are investigating the question. No official report issued in 1954.

Fog

Fog occurred in January, February and March, also in the last two months of the year.

Total : 14 days in 1954. No Smog. No ill effect traced.

In this area the smoke pollution was not high, but the humidity was high.

Total Rainfall

37.40 inches. Second highest recorded. 7.19 inches above long period first average.

Snow

8.1 inches. All in three months and in December.

Total Sunshine

1251 hours. 92 hours less than long period Average.

There were 110 sunless days.

Winds

January	.....	.....	Westerly, later South East.
February	.....	.....	Cold East, Warm West.
March	.....	.....	Cold, East and South West.
April	.....	.....	Westerly—Easterly.
May	.....	.....	Cold North to North East, to South West.
June	.....	.....	Westerly.
July	.....	.....	Westerly.
August	.....	.....	Westerly.
September	.....	.....	Westerly.
October	.....	.....	South West.
November	.....	.....	West.
December	.....	.....	West.

WEATHER SUMMARY

Monthly, 1954

January

Cold and dry.

February

Cold and Bright.

March

A variable month.

April

Driest April on record.

May

Cool and dull.

June

Wet, dull and cool.

July

Dull and wet.

August

Wet and dull.

September

Warm and sunny by day—rain fell mainly during the night
Thunder storm on the 10th.

October

Mild, dull and wet.

November

Dull and wet.

December

Mild and dull. Warmest December on record for 15 years.

SUMMARY OF MONTHLY REPORTS, 1954

Details supplied by Mr. Smith, Meteorological Station, 2nd Order,
sited at factory of Messrs. C. H. Elkes & Sons, Uttoxeter

Month	Shade Temperature Mean Max. Min. degrees F.	Mean Earth Temper- ature at 4ft. degrees F.	Mean Humidity at 9 hours %	Total Rain- fall "	No. of days with 0.01" or more	No. of days with 0.04" or more	Tempera- ture Max. Min. degrees F.	Total Sun- shine hours	No. of days of			Thun- der	Fog Visi- bility under 500 yds.	Ground Frost 30.4 degrees or under	In Milli- metres. Air Pressure. Min. Max.
									Snow	Snow lying at 9 hrs.	Max. depth noted "				
Jan.	41.9—30.9	39.5	80.8	1.31"	15	10	56—22	50½	4	3	1"	—	1	22	741—774
Feb.	41.3—29.6	36.4	83.8	2.34"	19	13	51—16	58½	6	9	2"	—	2	22	732—770
March	48.5—35.3	39.4	82.1	1.93"	12	10	60—20	93½	1	1	4"	—	3	17	724—764
April	54.5—35.9	43.4	75.4	0.44"	6	5	61—28	168½	—	—	—	—	—	19	751—774
May	61 —42.5	47.3	79.5	2.28"	14	13	79—30	129½	—	—	—	1	—	8	737—766
June	63.1—48.5	52.7	82.4	3.8"	17	14	71—40	140½	—	—	—	1	—	—	740—763
July	64 —49.6	55.4	81.5	2.68"	21	14	73—39	146	—	—	—	—	—	—	Mean of 755
August	65.4—49.3	56.5	84.5	4"	19	17	77—40	131½	—	—	—	3	—	—	740—764
Sept.	62.6—46.0	54.7	81	3.69"	23	18	63—32	167	—	—	—	1	—	—	745—762
Oct.	59.1—45.9	52	85	5.19"	22	18	68—27	84½	—	—	—	1	—	1	744—768
Nov.	49.9—35.5	45.6	81.9	5.55"	20	16	56—26	51	—	—	—	—	7	9	727—772
Dec.	47.9—37.6	41.8	81.8	4.19"	22	15	57—28	23½	3	—	—	—	1	7	715—766

Action under National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

During 1954 one Court action was required. All other cases needing attention were dealt with by persuasion or by being removed to a relative or getting a friend to take care of them.

Clean Food Guild

During 1953 the formation of a Clean Food Guild was discussed, but it was decided to defer such a guild until a better water supply and sanitation could be made available.

Joint Old People's Committee

During 1954 the Committee continued its useful work in the Urban and Rural Districts and gave assistance to all aged in need of help and comfort.

During 1954, Kirk House was purchased and after many alterations, was opened as a Home for the aged.

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